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Leading Soviet Commentators and Midlevel Officials
(May 1987)

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Leading Soviet Commentators and Midlevel Officials

(May 1987)

The following list of Soviet media commentators and midlevel officials is intended to identify individuals who have provided or may provide particularly significant comment or useful insights into Soviet policy. The list, based on observations by FBIS media analysts, is intended as an informal guide for Soviet media watchers.

Some individuals are included in the list because of their formal positions in the political or propaganda apparatus, others because they have been singled out as “political observers”—the elite among media commentators—and others because they have had an important role in presenting Soviet policy in the media or have been known to articulate controversial positions. The individual’s position and other pertinent background are included.

This list is updated periodically and suggestions about its content would be welcome. Comments may be addressed to Chief, USSR/Europe Division, FBIS Analysis Group, [redacted] For additional copies, call FBIS Liaison and Requirements Branch, [redacted]

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Abalkin, Leonid I.	Director of the Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics. Frequent commentator on economic issues. Cautious advocate of reform.
Afanasyev, Viktor G.	Chief editor of <i>Pravda</i> , CPSU Central Committee member, chairman of USSR Union of Journalists. Worth paying attention to, particularly on ideological issues.
Aganbegyan, Abel G.	Head of the Academy of Sciences Economics Division. Currently the USSR's most prominent economist whose ideas appear to have influenced Gorbachev. Former director, Siberian Branch Institute of Economic Organization of Industrial Production of Siberian Department of Academy of Sciences. Writings deserve careful scrutiny.
Aleksandrov, I.	Pseudonym currently unused probably because of past association with harsh polemics against China. Considered to be authoritative. Usually wrote long articles, published only in <i>Pravda</i> , on fundamental issues involving international communism, particularly China. Sometimes identified as "Igor" in TASS and radio summaries.
Alekseyev, An.	Apparent pseudonym for high-ranking Soviet official closely involved in disarmament; possibly Ambassador at Large Oleg Grinevskiy, former head of the Soviet delegation at Stockholm Conference on Disarmament in Europe (CDE).

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Alekseyev, I.	Pseudonym. Used on authoritative articles on China, usually in <i>Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn</i> . Sometimes appears with cosignature F. Nikolayev.
Ambartsumov, Yevgeniy A.	Official of the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System. A strong advocate of economic reform, calling for expansion of private sector along lines of the 1920's New Economic Policy and East European experiments. Has become frequent contributor to <i>Moscow News</i> , where he has staked out highly controversial positions.
Anchishkin, Aleksandr I.	Director of the Institute of Economics and Forecasting of Scientific-Technical Progress. Reform-minded economist.
Antonov, Aleksey K.	Deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Soviet permanent representative to Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA). Spokesman on CEMA.
Arbatov, Aleksey G.	Specialist on military-political problems at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations. An important spokesman on the United States, especially strategic affairs. Son of Georgiy Arbatov.
Arbatov, Georgiy A.	Director of USA and Canada Institute, CPSU Central Committee member. An important official who is often a spokesman for Soviet views on the West. Appears to advise Gorbachev on foreign policy issues. Participated in negotiations at Reykjavik summit.
Baklanov, Grigoriy Ya.	New editor of <i>Znamya</i> . One of the leaders of the literary thaw. Often interviewed.
Belyayev, Igor P.	Chief of <i>Literaturnaya Gazeta's</i> Foreign Policy Department. Former <i>Pravda</i> editor, expert on Middle East.

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Berezhkov, Valentin M.	Chief editor of USA, formerly embassy officer in Washington.
Bessmertnykh, Aleksandr A.	USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs with responsibility for U.S.-Soviet relations and arms control issues.
Bogachev, Vladimir	TASS military affairs commentator. Prolific propagandist. Often first to comment on developments in U.S. policy.
Bogdanov, Radomir G.	Deputy director of USA and Canada Institute. Active spokesman on questions of U.S. policy and U.S.-Soviet relations, often speaks on Moscow English-language broadcasts.
Bogomolov, Oleg T.	Director of Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System. An important spokesman on Soviet foreign economic policy. Proponent of trade with the West.
Borisov, Oleg	See Rakhmanin, Oleg.
Borovik, Genrikh A.	Chairman of Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace. Strident propagandist.
Bovin, Aleksandr Ye.	<i>Izvestiya</i> political observer. A very important and prominent commentator who may serve as an adviser to the leadership. Speaks with unusual candor on a range of foreign policy issues and can provide insight into high-level views of foreign policy options and into the lines of contention within the Soviet political elite.
Bromley, Yulian V.	Director of Institute of Ethnography and Academy of Sciences Council on Nationalities. One of the leading Soviet authorities on nationalities issues. Writes frequently.

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Brutents, Karen N.	Deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee International Department. An important official with oversight responsibilities for the Middle East and Latin America. His scholarly writings on the Third World tend to be more innovative than his comments on current issues. Carries particular authority when commenting on the Middle East.
Burlatskiy, Fedor M.	<i>Literaturnaya Gazeta</i> political observer. Head of the Philosophy Department in the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Social Sciences. All his writings deserve careful examination. A strong advocate for political reform in USSR. Frequently tests limits on controversial subjects, sometimes writing in allegorical manner, using Chinese experience or history to polemicize about current Soviet policies.
Butenko, Anatoliy P.	Department chief, Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System. Deserves close attention. Has written important articles on economic and political reform, called for expansion of private sector.
Buzdalov, Ivan N.	Official of the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System. A leading advocate of agricultural reform along the lines adopted in East Europe.
Bykov, Oleg N.	Deputy director of Institute of World Economy and International Relations. A spokesman on strategic issues, arms control specialist.
Chakovskiy, Aleksandr B.	Chief editor of <i>Literaturnaya Gazeta</i> , CPSU Central Committee candidate member. Writes on wide variety of issues, frank commentator on ideological problems in the Soviet Union.

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Chazov, Yevgeniy I.	Minister of health, CPSU Central Committee member. Has had influential position as personal physician to Soviet leaders. Prominent in Soviet campaigns warning of consequences of nuclear war.
Chernyayev, Anatoliy S.	Foreign policy adviser to Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee candidate member. Wrote infrequently before becoming adviser; may not write at all in current assignment.
Chervov, Col. Gen. Nikolay Fedorovich	Chief of a directorate of the General Staff. Spokesman for military view on arms control issues, East-West military balance, and related topics. Has written under pseudonym N. Fedorov.
Chikin, Valentin V.	Chief editor of <i>Sovetskaya Rossiya</i> . Outspoken commentator on Soviet domestic scene; frequently uses historical allegories to make a political point.
Dalnev, P.	Pseudonym infrequently used for authoritative comment on China.
Dalnev, V.	Pseudonym infrequently used for authoritative comment on Japan.
Demchenko, Pavel Ye.	Editor in <i>Pravda's</i> Asian and African Countries Department, member of <i>Pravda</i> editorial board. <i>Pravda's</i> main Middle East commentator.
Druzhinin, Aleksandr	Commentator of U.S. affairs. Former chief radio and television correspondent in Washington.
Dunayev, Vladimir	Chief Soviet radio and television correspondent in the United States.

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Falin, Valentin M.	Chief of Novosti Press Agency; candidate member of Central Committee. An important spokesman on European security issues and U.S.-Soviet relations. Former <i>Izvestiya</i> political observer, former ambassador to West Germany, former deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department. Has stressed policy favoring close relations with West Europe as opposed to the United States. As head of parent organization for <i>Moscow News</i> , has appeared to give strong backing to <i>glasnost</i> .
Fedorov, N.	See Chervov, Col. Gen. Nikolay Fedorovich.
Fedoseyev, Petr N.	Vice president of the Academy of Sciences in charge of Social Sciences Section, CPSU Central Committee member. Prolific writer, most interesting when discussing ideology, social sciences, and economic reform.
Fesunencko, Igor	Television political observer, covers a variety of international topics. A host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> , irregularly appears as commentator on TV news program <i>Vremya</i> .
Frolov, Ivan T.	Chief editor of <i>Kommunist</i> . An outspoken reform advocate who is frequently interviewed.
Gerasimov, Gennadiy I.	Foreign Ministry press spokesman. Former chief editor of <i>Moscow News</i> , deputy chairman of Novosti.
Geyvandov, Konstantin	<i>Izvestiya</i> political observer. Writes primarily on Middle East.
Glukhov, Yuriy	<i>Pravda</i> correspondent specializing in Middle East affairs.
Grinevskiy, Oleg A.	Soviet ambassador at large, former head of Soviet delegation to Stockholm CDE. Probably uses pseudonyms O. Grinev and An. Andreyev.

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Gromyko, Anatoliy A.	Director of Africa Institute. Writes mostly on Africa but also addresses wider international issues. Son of President Gromyko.
Gvishiani, Dzherman	Director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Systems Analysis. Former deputy chairman of Gosplan and of the State Committee for Science and Technology. A strong advocate of expansion of trade ties with the West. His articles on this subject and on economic reform bear watching.
Ivanov, Vilen N.	Director of Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research. Expert in the sociology of propaganda.
Kalashnikov, Vladimir I.	First secretary of the Volgograd Obkom. Was deputy to Gorbachev in Stavropol and appears to be closely associated with agricultural programs promoted by Gorbachev. Criticized excesses in <i>glasnost</i> at 27th CPSU Congress.
Kalyagin, Boris	Television political observer, covers a variety of international topics. A host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> , irregularly appears as commentator on TV news program <i>Vremya</i> .
Kamentsev, Vladimir	Chairman of the State External Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers. Has served as a spokesman on policy on bloc and nonbloc economic relations.
Kamshalov, Aleksandr I.	Head of State Committee for Cinematography since December 1986. Former chief of the cinema sector of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department.

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Kapitsa, Mikhail S.	Head of the Academy of Sciences Oriental Institute and chairman of the Soviet chapter of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization. Former deputy foreign minister, former head of the First Far East Department (China) in Foreign Ministry. Generally identified with critical view of China, but appears to be less influential than in the past. Writes under pseudonym M. S. Ukraintsev.
Karpov, Viktor P.	Head of the Foreign Ministry Arms Limitation and Disarmament Directorate. Former head of the Soviet delegation to Nuclear and Space Arms Talks (NST). Frequent and important spokesman on arms control issues.
Karpov, Vladimir	First secretary of the USSR Writers Union. A cautious advocate of reform who is frequently interviewed.
Kashlev, Yuriy B.	Head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Directorate of Humanitarian and Cultural Ties. Head of the Soviet delegation at the all-European meeting on security and cooperation (CSCE) in Vienna.
Khachaturov, Tigran	Chief editor of <i>Voprosy Ekonomiki</i> . Conservative economist.
Kim, Georgiy F.	Deputy chairman of Orientalists Association, deputy director of Academy of Sciences Oriental Institute. Writes on Asia and Third World liberation movements.
Kirichenko, Vadim	Member of Gosplan, director of Scientific Research Economics Institute under Gosplan. Provides interesting comment on economic policy, sometimes critical.

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Klimov, Elem	First secretary of the Cinema Workers Union since May 1986. Outspoken supporter of reform and decentralized control over film industry.
Kobysh, Vitaliy I.	Former U.S. Sector chief in CPSU Central Committee International Information Department. Frequent media spokesman for Soviet policy on East-West issues and relations with the United States. Currently identified as a "publicist," but may well retain a position in the Central Committee.
Kokoshin, Andrey A.	Deputy director of USA and Canada Institute, deputy chairman of the Committee of Soviet Scientists for the Defense of Peace and Against the Nuclear Threat. Writes on strategic issues and U.S. politics. Provides notably sophisticated view of political developments in the United States. Deeply involved in discussion of space weapons.
Kolchanov, Rudolf G.	Deputy chief editor of <i>Trud</i> . Appears frequently on domestic radio, comments on wide variety of international issues.
Kolesnichenko, Tomas	Editor in <i>Pravda's</i> Department of International Information. Writes occasionally on U.S.-Soviet relations. Also appears on television.
Komissarov, Yuriy	Pseudonym. Considered to reflect authoritative views on Scandinavian issues. Appears in both Soviet and Scandinavian press.
Komplektov, Viktor G.	Deputy foreign minister with responsibility for Latin America. Formerly had responsibility for U.S.-Soviet relations. Rarely publishes.
Kondrashov, Stanislav	<i>Izvestiya</i> political observer. Writes on East-West issues.

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Koptug, Valentin A.	Vice president of Academy of Sciences, chairman of Siberian Department of Academy of Sciences, member of CPSU Central Auditing Commission. Holds key position in region that has been at forefront in economic innovation. Writes primarily on energy issues.
Korionov, Vitaliy	<i>Pravda</i> political observer. Prolific writer on world affairs and communist relations, focuses on U.S foreign policy.
Kornilov, Yuriy	TASS political observer. Writes prolifically on world affairs, specializes in U.S.-Soviet relations. Strident propagandist.
Korniyenko, Georgiy M.	First deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee International Department. Former first deputy foreign minister, CPSU Central Committee member. Has participated in press conferences and has given interviews on East-West affairs.
Korotich, Vitaliy A.	New editor of <i>Ogonek</i> . Outspoken reformer who is frequently interviewed.
Kosolapov, Richard I.	Former chief editor of <i>Kommunist</i> , CPSU Central Committee member. While chief editor was a significant spokesman from conservative perspective on ideological issues. Also wrote interesting articles on his area of expertise, management science. Any writing by him could be significant.
Koval, Boris I.	Deputy director of the Academy of Sciences Institute of the International Workers Movement. Identified as a specialist on the problems of the international revolutionary process.
Kovalenko, Ivan I.	Deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, vice chairman of the USSR-Japan Society Board. Writes on Asian topics.

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Krasikov, Anatoliy A.	Deputy director general of TASS, political observer for TASS.
Krasin, Yuriy A.	Prorector of CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences. An important spokesman on ideology and world communist affairs. Prominent in debates over Eurocommunism in the 1970's and in efforts to rally international communist support for Soviet foreign policy in wake of the invasion of Afghanistan.
Krivtsov, Vladimir A.	Deputy director of Academy of Sciences Far East Institute. Publishes rarely, but more often than most officials in the institute. Generally adheres to dominant line on China.
Kudryavtsev, Vladimir L.	<i>Izvestiya</i> political observer. Writes on a variety of international topics.
Kudryavtsev, Vladimir N.	Director of State and Law Institute, deputy chairman of Soviet Sociological Association. Has written interesting articles on ideology, strengthening of legal rights. Could be increasingly influential on legal reform issues.
Kurashvili, B. P.	Head of Sector of Theory of State Administration at the Institute of State and Law. Advocate of relatively radical economic reform, especially abolition of most ministries.
Kuznetsov, Feliks	Head of Moscow Writers Union. Controversial both because of stress he puts on traditional Russian values and the danger of Western influences on Soviet society and because of attacks on established Writers Union leaders.
Kvitsinskiy, Yuliy	Ambassador to FRG, former head of Soviet delegation to INF talks.

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Lapin, Nikolay I.	New director of the Institute of Philosophy, vice president of the Soviet Sociology Association.
Laptev, Ivan D.	Chief editor of <i>Izvestiya</i> .
Lebedev, Aleksandr A.	Deputy chief editor of <i>Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn</i> . Appears frequently on domestic radio, comments on a wide variety of international issues.
Lebedev, Yuriy	Deputy chief of Treaty and Legal Directorate in Ministry of Defense. Nikolay Chervov's assistant. Spokesman for Defense Ministry and commentator on military and arms control issues.
Leontyev, Col. Aleksey	Military observer appearing in <i>Krasnaya Zvezda</i> and <i>New Times</i> .
Levikov, Aleksandr	<i>Literaturnaya Gazeta's</i> economics editor. Outspoken advocate of reform.
Loginov, Vadim P.	Deputy foreign minister. Spokesman on foreign economic issues.
Losev, Sergey A.	Director general of TASS, member of CPSU Central Auditing Commission, first deputy chairman of USSR Union of Journalists. Writes primarily on U.S.-Soviet relations and East-West issues.
Makarov, Valeriy L.	New reform-minded director of Central Economics Mathematics Institute.
Manevich, Yefim L.	Official of the Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics. Writes controversial articles on demographic policy and regional planning.

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Marchuk, Guriy I.	President of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Former deputy premier, chairman of State Committee for Science and Technology, CPSU Central Committee member. Writes interesting articles on science policy, relationship between Academy of Sciences and State Committee, and energy.
Matveyev, Vikentiy	<i>Izvestiya</i> political observer. Writes on East-West relations and U.S. leadership.
Medvedev, Vladimir I.	Head of the Soviet INF negotiating group. A military arms control specialist.
Mikhaylov, Valerian V.	Head of Soviet delegation to MBFR talks.
Mikoyan, Sergo A.	Chief editor of <i>Latinskaya Amerika</i> . An innovative commentator on Third World issues. Son of former Soviet president.
Milovidov, Maj. Gen. Arseniy S.	Professor and head of faculty at the Lenin Military-Political Academy. Writes on political-military issues.
Milshteyn, Mikhail A.	Sector head (disarmament) at USA and Canada Institute. Specialist on U.S. defense policy, possible aide to G. Arbatov. Has written important articles on strategic issues.
Mironenko, Viktor I.	Komsomol first secretary.
Murakhovsiy, Vsevolod S.	First deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and head of State Agro-Industrial Committee (Gosagroprom), former first secretary of Stavropol, the political base of Gorbachev, and a member of the CPSU Central Committee. Writes primarily on agriculture and changes needed in this sector.
Nazarkin, Yuriy K.	Permanent Soviet representative to UN Disarmament Conference in Geneva.

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Nenashev, Mikhail F.	Chairman of the State Committee for Publishing. Former chief editor of <i>Sovetskaya Rossiya</i> . A frequently interviewed reformer.
Nikolayev, F.	Pseudonym. Cosigns authoritative articles on China with I. Alekseyev, usually in <i>Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn</i> .
Novopashin, Yu. S.	Sector head at the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System. Has written on need for internal reform in the Soviet Union and on Soviet policy toward the Third World.
Obukhov, Aleksey A.	Ambassador at large and deputy head of the Soviet delegation at the U.S.-Soviet talks on nuclear and space issues in Geneva.
Ovchinnikov, Vsevolod S.	<i>Pravda</i> political observer. Writes frequently about the Far East and U.S. policy toward Asia.
Pantin, Igor K.	Chief editor of <i>Rabochiy Klass i Sovremennyy Mir</i> , professor at the Academy of Sciences Institute of the International Workers Movement. Writes on theory of revolution, communist struggle.
Petrenko, Fedor F.	Theoretician, identified from mid-1960's through 1973 as a "responsible official of the Central Committee." Longtime advocate of party reform, focusing on such issues as the role of the communist party in Soviet society.
Petrosyants, Andranik M.	Head of Soviet delegation at U.S.-Soviet talks on nuclear testing, chairman of USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy. A major spokesman on nuclear nonproliferation issues.
Petrov, A.	Pseudonym. A byline in <i>Pravda</i> on informed international affairs commentary. Infrequently used in recent years.

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Petrovskiy, Vladimir F.	Deputy foreign minister. Spokesman on arms control and other international issues.
Polyanov, Nikolay	<i>Literaturnaya Gazeta</i> political observer since November 1984. Previously was a TASS correspondent writing on the United States and East-West relations.
Portugalov, Nikolay	Former consultant to the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department. Writes on European security issues, particularly Germany.
Primakov, Yevgeniy M.	Director of Institute of World Economy and International Relations. Former director of Academy of Sciences Oriental Institute. Chairman of Orientalists Association, deputy chairman of Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace. Prominent authority on Third World, especially the Middle East. Prolific and sometimes innovative writer. Appears to have strong ties to Gorbachev leadership.
Rakhmanin, Oleg Borisovich	Long-serving first deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee Department for Liaison With Communist and Workers Parties of Socialist Countries. Has not been identified in this position for several months and may have been removed. Espouses a conservative, hostile view of China. Has written under pseudonyms O. Borisov and O. Vladimirov.
Rudenko, Boris T.	Chief of Communist, Workers, and National Liberation Movements Department in CPSU Social Sciences Institute.
Rybkin, Col. Yevgeniy	Leading conservative military-political theorist at the Institute of Military History.

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Safarov, Rafael A.	Institute of State and Law. Has written interesting articles on public opinion and sociological research.
Sagdeyev, Roald Z.	Director of the Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research. A key spokesman on SDI and on other space issues.
Semenov, Vadim S.	Chief editor of <i>Voprosy Filosofii</i> . Writes on ideological matters, advocates reform.
Semeyko, Lev S.	USA and Canada Institute specialist on U.S. defense policy. Prolific writer on defense and disarmament topics.
Seyful-Mulyukov, Farid	Television political observer, specialist on the Middle East and Africa. A host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> , irregularly appears as commentator on TV news program <i>Vremya</i> .
Shakhnazarov, Georgiy K.	First deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee Department for Liaison With Communist and Workers Parties of Socialist Countries, chairman of Soviet Political Science Association. Innovative, advocates political reform.
Shalayev, Stephan A.	Chairman of All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, Supreme Soviet Presidium member, CPSU Central Committee member. Has important role as spokesman on sensitive issues involving trade unions.
Shaposhnikov, Vitaliy S.	Deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee International Department. Has oversight responsibilities for Scandinavia and European peace movement. Writes occasionally.

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Shatrov, Mikhail	Playwright who advocates reform and pushes against old boundaries of acceptable presentation. Recent articles have alleged that there was opposition by Grishin and others in the Politburo at the time Gorbachev was selected general secretary.
Shiryayev, Yuriy	Director of International Institute of Economic Problems of the World Socialist System. Writes on CEMA.
Shishkin, Gennadiy A.	First deputy director general of TASS, political observer for TASS. Frequent commentator on domestic radio on East-West issues.
Shishlin, Nikolay V.	CPSU Central Committee consultant, political observer. One of the most informative of the regular participants in Soviet television and radio foreign affairs programs. Often takes conciliatory position toward the United States and China.
Sklyarov, Yuriy A.	Head of CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department. Former editor of <i>Problems of Peace and Socialism</i> .
Sychev, Vyacheslav V.	Secretary, CEMA.
Timofeyev, Timur T.	Director of the Institute of the International Workers Movement of the USSR Academy of Sciences, member of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, member of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. Writes most frequently on ideology and international class struggle, writes occasionally on foreign affairs and strategic issues.
Titarenko, Mikhail L.	Director of Academy of Sciences Far East Institute.

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Trofimenko, Genrikh A.	Chief of U.S. Foreign Policy Department at USA and Canada Institute. Writes on U.S. foreign and strategic policy. Has pessimistic view of the prospects for U.S.-Soviet relations.
Trofimuk, Andrey A.	First deputy chairman of the Siberian Department of the Academy of Sciences, director of Novosibirsk Geology and Geophysics Institute.
Tsvetov, Vladimir	Television and radio political observer, specialist on Far East. A host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> .
Ukraitsev, M.	See Kapitsa, Mikhail S.
Ulyanovskiy, Rostislav A.	Deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, deputy chairman of Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, member of editorial board of <i>Narody Azii i Afriki</i> and <i>Problemy Dalnego Vostoka</i> . A major spokesman on Third World, nationalities, and nationalism.
Vasilyev, Aleksey M.	Deputy director of Africa Institute. Appears frequently on domestic radio; comments primarily on the Middle East and Third World.
Velikhov, Yevgeniy P.	Vice president of the Academy of Sciences; director of the Academy of Sciences Information Science, Computer Technology, and Automation Department; chairman of the Committee of Soviet Scientists for the Defense of Peace and Against the Nuclear Threat. Candidate member of CPSU Central Committee. Prominent spokesman on space weaponry, computer technology, and other science and technology issues. Plays active role in communications with international peace groups. Appears to be close to Gorbachev.

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Vlasov, Aleksandr V.	Minister of the Interior. Often interviewed.
Volkogonov, Lt. Gen. Dmitriy A.	Deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. Longtime spokesman on military-political issues, appears frequently on television/radio program <i>I Serve the Soviet Union</i> .
Volskiy, Victor V.	Director of Latin America Institute of the Academy of Sciences, president of Soviet Association for Friendship and Cultural Cooperation With Latin American Countries. Writes on Latin America.
Voronov, Yuriy P.	Head of CPSU Central Committee Culture Department. Apparent reform supporter.
Vorontsov, Yuliy	USSR first deputy foreign minister and current head of Soviet delegation to the U.S.-Soviet NST talks in Geneva.
Vosnesenskiy, Andrey	Writer who, with Yevtushenko, has been pushing cultural thaw. Led campaign to rehabilitate Pasternak.
Vtorov, A.	Apparent pseudonym for Soviet official with policy responsibility for West Europe. Author of several comprehensive articles in 1984 on Soviet-French relations and on European security and Stockholm CDE.
Yakovlev, Yegor	Chief editor of <i>Moscow News</i> . Has transformed that weekly into strong advocate of reform and has engaged in <i>glasnost</i> to extreme extent.
Yanovski, Rudolf G.	Rector of CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences.

Yefimov, Nikolay	First deputy chief editor of <i>Izvestiya</i> . Appears frequently on domestic radio, comments on wide variety of international issues.
Yevtushenko, Yevgeniy	Well-known Soviet poet who has assumed leading position in pressing for cultural thaw and discussion of sore points in Soviet history.
Zagladin, Vadim V.	First deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, CPSU Central Committee member. Important spokesman, prolific and informative. Comments on foreign policy, ideology, and international communism.
Zalygin, Sergey P.	New editor of <i>Novyy Mir</i> . Advocate of reform in economics and liberalization in culture. Has written much about the New Economic Policy. One of the leaders of the antiriver diversion campaign, a controversial environmental issue.
Zamyatin, Leonid M.	Ambassador to Great Britain; former chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department.
Zaslavskaya, Tatyana I.	Head of the Department for Social Problems of Labor and Social Planning of Labor Resources at the Novosibirsk Institute of Economics and Organization of Industrial Production. New president of the Soviet Sociological Association. A reform economist whose ideas are widely publicized and appear to influence Gorbachev.
Zhukov, Yuriy	<i>Pravda</i> political observer on world affairs, former chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace.

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Zhurkin, Vitaliy V.	Deputy director of USA and Canada Institute. Worth watching, although not prolific or of consistent value.
Zorin, Valentin	Senior radio and television political observer, specialist on United States. Moderator for <i>Studio 9</i> TV show, a host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> , irregularly appears as commentator on TV news program <i>Vremya</i> .
Zubkov, Georgiy	Television political observer, covers a variety of international topics. A host on TV program <i>The World Today</i> , irregularly appears as commentator on TV news program <i>Vremya</i> .

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